

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. ~~A digital camera having a normal photographing mode and a document photographing mode, said digital camera comprising:~~

5 an image pickup unit which picks up an image of a subject and converts the image to image data;

10 a compression unit which compresses the image data and generates a compressed image data;

15 a storage unit which stores the compressed image data;

20 an expansion unit which expands the compressed image data;

25 a selection unit with which any of the normal photographing mode and the document photographing mode can be selected; and

30 an image processing unit which subjects the image data to image processing depending on the selected photographing mode,

35 wherein said expansion unit expands the compressed image data acquired in the document photographing mode and stored in said storage unit, and then said image processing unit subjects this data to an image processing that a destination requires.

40

2. The digital camera according to claim 1, wherein, in the document photographing mode, data related to the conditions during photography are stored in said storage unit in correlation with the compressed image data, and said image

~~processing unit subjects the image data to image processing based on the data related to the conditions during photography.~~

3. The digital camera according to claim 1 further
5 comprising a data communication unit which performs data
communications with the outside.

4. The digital camera according to claim 3 further
comprising:

10 a memory which stores the names of destinations, telephone numbers or addresses, and an image deletion flag that specifies whether the image data is to be deleted after its transmission in correlation with one another; and

15 a deletion unit which deletes the image data after the image data has been transmitted by said data communication unit based on the image deletion flag in said memory.

5. The digital camera according to claim 3 further comprising a deletion unit which deletes the image data after
20 the image data has been transmitted by said data communication unit depending on a destination.

6. The digital camera according to claim 4, wherein an operator can freely add or change the contents of said memory.

7. A digital camera having a normal photographing mode and a document photographing mode, said digital camera comprising:

an image pickup unit which picks up an image of a subject and converts the image to image data;

5 a selection unit with which any of the normal photographing mode and the document photographing mode can be selected; and

an image processing unit which subjects the image data acquired in the document photographing mode to an image 10 processing that a destination requires.

8. The digital camera according to claim 7 further comprising a data communication unit which performs data communications with the outside.

15 9. The digital camera according to claim 8 further comprising:

a memory which stores the names of destinations, telephone numbers or addresses, and an image deletion flag that 20 specifies whether the image data is to be deleted after its transmission in correlation with one another; and

a deletion unit which deletes the image data after the image data has been transmitted by said data communication unit based on the image deletion flag in said memory.

10. ~~The digital camera according to claim 8 further comprising a deletion unit which deletes the image data after the image data has been transmitted by said data communication unit depending on a destination.~~

5

11. The digital camera according to claim 9, wherein an operator can freely add or change the contents of said memory.

12. A digital camera having a normal photographing mode and 10 a document photographing mode, said digital camera comprising:

an image pickup unit which picks up an image of a subject and converts the image to image data;

a compression unit which compresses the image data and generates a compressed image data;

15 a storage unit which stores the compressed image data;

an expansion unit which expands the compressed image data;

20 a selection unit with which any of the normal photographing mode and the document photographing mode can be selected; and

an image processing unit which subjects the expanded image data to image processing depending on the selected photographing mode,

25 wherein said expansion unit expands the compressed image data acquired in the document photographing mode and stored in

~~said storage unit, and then said image processing unit subjects the data to the processing for clipping, conversion to a smaller number of gray levels in achromatic color, and resolution conversion, and once more compresses the data.~~

5

13. The digital camera according to claim 12, wherein, in the document photographing mode, data related to the conditions during photography are stored in said storage unit in correlation with the compressed image data, and said image processing unit subjects the image data to image processing based on the data related to the conditions during photography.

14. The digital camera according to claim 12 further comprising a data communication unit which performs data communications with the outside.

15. The digital camera according to claim 14 further comprising:

20 a memory which stores the names of destinations, telephone numbers or addresses, and an image deletion flag that specifies whether the image data is to be deleted after its transmission in correlation with one another; and

25 a deletion unit which deletes the image data after the image data has been transmitted by said data communication unit based on the image deletion flag in said memory.

16. ~~The digital camera according to claim 14 further comprising a deletion unit which deletes the image data after the image data has been transmitted by said data communication unit depending on a destination.~~

17. ~~The digital camera according to claim 15 wherein an operator can freely add or change the contents of said memory.~~

10 18. A digital camera having a normal photographing mode and a document photographing mode, said digital camera comprising:

an image pickup unit which picks up an image of a subject and converts the image to image data;

15 a selection unit with which any of the normal photographing mode and the document photographing mode can be selected; and

20 an image processing unit which subjects the image data acquired in the document photographing mode to the processing for clipping, conversion to a smaller number of gray levels in achromatic color, and resolution conversion, and once more compresses the data.

25 19. The digital camera according to claim 18 further comprising a data communication unit which performs data communications with the outside.

20. The digital camera according to claim 19 further comprising:

a memory which stores the names of destinations,
5 telephone numbers or addresses, and an image deletion flag that specifies whether the image data is to be deleted after its transmission in correlation with one another; and

a deletion unit which deletes the image data after the image data has been transmitted by said data communication unit
10 based on the image deletion flag in said memory.

21. The digital camera according to claim 19 further comprising a deletion unit which deletes the image data after the image data has been transmitted by said data communication
15 unit depending on a destination.

22. The digital camera according to claim 20, wherein an operator can freely add or change the contents of said memory.

20 23. A digital camera having a normal photographing mode and a document photographing mode, said digital camera comprising:

an image pickup unit which picks up an image of a subject and converts the image to image data;

25 a compression unit which compresses the image data and generates a compressed image data;

~~a storage unit which stores the compressed image data;~~

an expansion unit which expands the compressed image data;

a selection unit with which any of the normal 5 photographing mode and the document photographing mode can be selected; and

an image processing unit which subjects the image data to image processing depending on the selected photographing mode,

10 wherein said expansion unit expands the compressed image data acquired in the document photographing mode and stored in said storage unit, and then said image processing unit subjects this data to the processing for clipping, conversion to a smaller number of gray levels in achromatic color, and once more 15 compresses the data.

24. The digital camera according to claim 23, wherein, in the document photographing mode, data related to the conditions during photography are stored in said storage unit in 20 correlation with the compressed image data, and said image processing unit subjects the image data to image processing based on the data related to the conditions during photography.

25. The digital camera according to claim 23 further comprising a data communication unit which performs data

~~communications with the outside.~~

26. The digital camera according to claim 25 further comprising:

5 a memory which stores the names of destinations, telephone numbers or addresses, and an image deletion flag that specifies whether the image data is to be deleted after its transmission in correlation with one another; and

10 a deletion unit which deletes the image data after the image data has been transmitted by said data communication unit based on the image deletion flag in said memory.

27. The digital camera according to claim 25 further comprising a deletion unit which deletes the image data after 15 the image data has been transmitted by said data communication unit depending on a destination.

28. The digital camera according to claim 26, wherein an operator can freely add or change the contents of said memory.

20 29. A digital camera having a normal photographing mode and a document photographing mode, said digital camera comprising:

an image pickup unit which picks up an image of a subject and converts the image to image data;

25 a selection unit with which any of the normal

~~photographing mode and the document photographing mode can be selected; and~~

an image processing unit which subjects the image data acquired in the document photographing mode to the processing 5 for clipping, conversion to a smaller number of gray levels in achromatic color, and character recognition.

30. The digital camera according to claim 29 further comprising a data communication unit which performs data 10 communications with the outside.

31. The digital camera according to claim 30 further comprising:

15 a memory which stores the names of destinations, telephone numbers or addresses, and an image deletion flag that specifies whether the image data is to be deleted after its transmission in correlation with one another; and

20 a deletion unit which deletes the image data after the image data has been transmitted by said data communication unit based on the image deletion flag in said memory.

32. The digital camera according to claim 30 further comprising a deletion unit which deletes the image data after 25 the image data has been transmitted by said data communication unit depending on a destination.

33. ~~The digital camera according to claim 31, wherein an operator can freely add or change the contents of said memory.~~

5 34. A digital camera having a normal photographing mode and a document photographing mode, said digital camera comprising:

an image pickup unit which picks up an image of a subject and converts the image to image data;

a compression unit which compresses the image data and

10 generates a compressed image data;

a storage unit which stores the compressed image data;

a selection unit with which any of the normal photographing mode and the document photographing mode can be selected; and

15 a display unit which displays the image of the subject on a monitor before the image is photographed,

wherein, in the document photographing mode, said display unit displays guidance to notify a user of the conditions during photography when the image of the subject is being displayed 20 on the monitor.

35. The digital camera according to claim 34, wherein the guidance display is provided with a frame display with which the user recognizes the area of regular-size paper.

36. ~~The digital camera according to claim 34 further comprising:~~

a memory which stores the names of destinations, telephone numbers or addresses, and frame display information that specifies whether the guidance is to be displayed on photographing in correlation with one another.

wherein said display unit displays or does not display the guidance based on the frame display information stored in said memory.

10

37. The digital camera according to claim 34, wherein said display unit displays or does not display the guidance depending on a destination.

15

38. The digital camera according to claim 36, wherein an operator can freely add or change the contents of said memory.

20

39. A digital camera having a normal photographing mode and a document photographing mode, said digital camera comprising:

an image pickup unit which picks up an image of a subject and converts the image to image data;

a selection unit with which any of the normal photographing mode and the document photographing mode can be selected; and

25

a display unit which displays the image of the subject

on a monitor before the image is photographed,

wherein, in the document photographing mode, said display unit displays guidance to notify a user of the conditions during photography when the image of the subject is being displayed on the monitor.

5

40. The digital camera according to claim 39, wherein the guidance display is provided with a frame display with which the user recognizes the area of regular-size paper.

10

41. The digital camera according to claim 39 further comprising:

a memory which stores the names of destinations, telephone numbers or addresses, and frame display information that specifies whether the guidance is to be displayed on photographing in correlation with one another,

wherein said display unit displays or does not display the guidance based on the frame display information stored in said memory.

20

42. The digital camera according to claim 39, wherein said display unit displays or does not display the guidance depending on a destination.

43. The digital camera according to claim 41, wherein an operator can freely add or change the contents of said memory.

44. A digital camera having a normal photographing mode and 5 a document photographing mode, said digital camera comprising:

an image pickup unit which picks up an image of a subject and converts the image to image data;

a compression unit which compresses the image data and generates a compressed image data;

10 a storage unit which stores the compressed image data;

a selection unit with which any of the normal photographing mode and the document photographing mode can be selected; and

15 an angle of photography detection unit which detects the angle of photography of with respect to the surface of the subject,

wherein, in the document photographing mode, photography is started only when the angle of photography is substantially vertical.

20 45. The digital camera according to claim 44, wherein said angle of photography detection unit detects the angle of photography from the shape of the photographed subject.

46. A digital camera having a normal photographing mode and a document photographing mode, said digital camera comprising:

an image pickup unit which picks up an image of a subject and converts the image to image data;

5 a selection unit with which any of the normal photographing mode and the document photographing mode can be selected; and

an angle of photography detection unit which detects the angle of photography of with respect to the surface of the 10 subject,

wherein, in the document photographing mode, photography is started only when the angle of photography is substantially vertical.

15 47. The digital camera according to claim 46, wherein said angle of photography detection unit detects the angle of photography from the shape of the photographed subject.

48. A document photographing and transmitting method of the 20 digital camera, said method comprising the steps of:

monitoring a subject on a display unit in response to instructions for monitoring;

displaying guidance on said display unit when the monitoring is performed;

25 capturing an image, converting the image to image data,

~~and compressing the image data in response to instructions for photographing;~~

storing the compressed image data in a storage unit;

reading the compressed image data stored in the storage
5 unit and expanding the data in response to instructions for transmission;

subjecting the expanded image data to an image processing
that a destination requires; and

10 transmitting the image data, that has been subjected to
image processing, to the destination.

49. A document photographing and transmitting method of the
digital camera, said method comprising the steps of:

15 monitoring a subject on a display unit in response to
instructions for monitoring;

displaying guidance on said display unit when the
monitoring is performed;

capturing an image and converting the image to image data
in response to instructions for photographing;

20 subjecting the image data to an image processing that a
destination requires; and

transmitting the image data, that has been subjected to
image processing, to the destination.